

From: J. Drew Dials
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/3/02 9:56am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Hello,

As a technology professional, I've been following the Microsoft/DOJ case from the beginning. It is my opinion that these remaining unsettled states do not have the consumers best interest in mind at all. These states are being influenced by the companies within them that are unable to compete with Microsoft solely on a product comparison basis. As a software developer, I have enjoyed the benefits that Microsoft has built into their development platforms and technologies for a few years now. These technologies and accompanying support, documentation, user communities, etc. are what make Microsoft stand above the rest. These features are what enable Microsoft to win business on many fronts. These features are what draws the consumer to the Microsoft platform. And these features are what these other "unsettled" companies refuse to compete with. Now, instead of making a comparable product or even better product that the consumer would readily embrace, they are attempting to use government to fight their battles for them. If these companies were making these high quality products to compete with the Microsoft platform, then this case would not even exist and we would not have spent millions of taxpayers dollars in an attempt to stunt Microsoft's growth. And this is for the consumer? I think it would be a crime and a shame for this government to play favorites to a few companies because they can't compete in this highly competitive economy and I hope the DOJ feels the same.

Thank you,
Jon Drew Dials

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